

TOWN OF WEBSTER

SELECT BOARD

MEETING MINUTES MONDAY April 18, 2022

The Select Board held a meeting on Monday, April 18, 2022. The meeting was held at 945 Battle Street, Webster, NH 03303.

Select Board Members present: David Hemenway (Chairperson), Normandie Blake, Marlo Herrick.

Also present: Town Administrator Dana Hadley, Police Chief Stephen Adams, Fire Chief/Road Agent Emmet Bean, Land Use Coordinator Russell Tatro, Health Officer Roy Fanjoy, Planning Chairperson Craig Fournier, Conservation Chairwoman Christine Schadler, Engineer Greg Goodrich, Engineer Taylor St. Peter, and residents (see attached attendance sheet)

Chairperson Hemenway opened the meeting at 6:33pm with the pledge of allegiance. He then took attendance, and all Board members were present. He then asked Selectwoman Herrick to lead the meeting because he had lost his voice and Selectwoman Herrick agreed.

Selectwoman Herrick moved to the first item on the agenda, The appointment with VHB regarding Clothespin Bridge.

VHB Engineer Greg Goodrich introduced himself and Engineer Taylor St. Peter. Mr. Goodrich stated the purpose of this meeting would be to go over changes with an emphasis on the proposed impacts on abutters. He then went over a brief history of the planning that had been done so far. He then went over the changes to the plans from the last meeting. The largest change was due to the addition of a raised pedestrian platform that could be used for fishing. The Board raised concerns over the cost to maintain the pedestrian platform during the winter months. Mr. Goodrich stated that the design did not need to be shoveled during the winter and could be used for additional snow storage if needed. Tara Gunnigle asked for the dimensions of the guard rails. Mr. Goodrich responded that they would be 42 inches on the pedestrian side and 36 inches on the other side.

Marlyn Nylen pointed out that her property abutted the bridge and asked how this would affect her property. She also expressed concern because her garage blocked the view of the bridge and people often sped over the bridge. Mr. Goodrich went over what the Town would need to take and where easements would be needed (see attached map). He also stated that this would improve the conditions of the road by straightening the curve off the bridge. They also planned to fill in the ditch directly across from the bridge and place a new culvert for drainage.

Mr. Goodrich went over how the plans would affect all the properties abutting the bridge. Sharon Huntington stated that her lot abutted the bridge on Frost Lane, and she had a few questions. First, she asked if the property would be restored after construction. Mr. Goodrich respond that the area would be loamed and seeded. Her second question was if the flow of the river would be affected. Mr. Goodrich stated that it would be an improvement over the current conditions because the current bridge was geomorphically incompatible with the river. The new bridge would allow the river to flow more naturally, and this would reduce erosion down river from the new bridge.

Paul Nylen asked how much closer the new bridge would be to his garage. Mr. Goodrich stated that the width of the road would be going from 60ft to 107ft. He didn't have the tools on him for a precise measurement but estimated it would be about 20ft closer.

Planning Chairperson Craig Fournier pointed out that the new bridge would be a steel girder design and asked how long it would last. Mr. Goodrich stated that this was a 100 year design and this had been chosen because it would be the easiest to transport and construct. Planning Chairperson Fournier asked

1 how this would affect the cost. Mr. Goodrich was unable to give an exact price due to the current market
2 conditions. Planning Chairperson Fournier asked when the project was expected to start. Mr. Goodrich
3 stated that the plan was to start construction next spring, but everything was contingent on getting the
4 required approvals and the availability of steel.

5
6 Chairperson Hemenway asked if there was a possibility of losing the funding from the State if the project
7 was delayed. Mr. Goodrich stated that he had asked Ron Kleiner, the State Engineer managing the
8 project, and he had assured him that the funding would not be pulled if the construction start was delayed.

9
10 Health Inspector Roy Fanjoy suggested that the bids should go out as early as possible. He felt the project
11 should be started next June after school got out. He also had concerns that emergency vehicles would not
12 be able to reach his property during construction in the winter months. Mr. Goodrich stated that the start
13 of the project would be subject to when the Town finished getting the needed easements and the
14 availability of steel. Health Inspector Fanjoy asked if the current bridge was still safe to cross. Mr.
15 Goodrich stated that to his knowledge the bridge was currently safe to cross. The State inspects the bridge
16 each year and they would inform the Town if the bridge became unsafe to cross.

17
18 Ms. Huntington asked if anyone from VHB would come and walk the land with the abutters. Mr.
19 Goodrich stated that was something the Town could organize.

20
21 Mr. Goodrich asked if there were any further questions, hearing none, he stated that they would give their
22 contact information to the Town if anyone had any further questions. He than thanked the Board and
23 those who attended.

24
25 The Board held a brief recess at 7:40pm while the public left the meeting. The meeting then resumed at
26 8:02pm.

27
28 Selectwoman Herrick moved to the next item on the agenda, sale of Town owned properties.

29
30 Administrator Hadley stated that he wanted to report on the feedback he had received from the
31 Conservation Commission and Historical Society regarding the sale of 874 Battle Street. The Historical
32 Society did not have interest in purchasing the property but would like to view what was in the House to
33 see if any items were worth preserving. He mentioned that he had tried to go into the building but had
34 been unable to because trash was blocking the door. Conservation Chair Christine Schadler stated that the
35 commission would be interested in preserving the river frontage and wanted to know if the House would
36 be sold with the field. The Board agreed it would be a good idea to put the river frontage in a conservation
37 easement. The Board held a lengthy discussion on whether to subdivide the lot and keep a portion for the
38 Town. Administrator Hadley informed the Board that the cost of subdividing the lot could come out of
39 the sale price. The Board was in favor of looking into subdividing the lot and requested that
40 Administrator Hadley get estimates on the cost of hiring a surveyor. The Board will discuss the matter
41 further at a future meeting once they have the information.

42
43 Selectwoman Herrick moved the next item of the agenda, Grange Hall camera replacement.

44
45 Coordinator Tatro informed the Board that he had received the requested quote from Computech to
46 replace the camera in the ceiling of the Grange Hall and the quote was for \$1,445.00. The Board reviewed
47 the quote and agreed that it was reasonable

48
49 **MOTION:** Chairperson Hemenway
50 *To approve the quote from Computech Integrated Systems in for the replacement of the ceiling camera*
51 *in the Grange Hall.*

1 **SECOND:** Selectwoman Blake
2 **DAVID HEMENWAY – YES**
3 **NORMANDIE BLAKE – YES**
4 **MARLO HERRICK – YES**
5 **The motion passed 3 to 0.**

6
7 Selectwoman Herrick moved to the next item on the agenda, the appointment of the Deputy Forest
8 Warden.

9
10 Administrator Hadley stated that he had received two candidates to be appointed as Deputy Forest
11 Wardens. The candidates were Camren Lorden and Greg Taylor both are volunteers at the Fire
12 Department. The Board agreed to sign the appointment paperwork.

13
14 Selectwoman Herrick moved to the next item on the agenda, abatements and tax exemptions/credits.

15
16 Coordinator Tatro had a few tax exemption/credit applications that needed to be signed. The Board
17 reviewed and signed the applications. Coordinator Tatro also had two abatement requests. The first was to
18 abate the bills for the campers who had left the campground because the collection of these taxes would
19 cost more then the bill. The second abatement was for a camper that had been registered last year and had
20 been billed in error. The Board agreed to sign the abatements.

21
22 **MOTION:** Selectwoman Herrick
23 *To abate the 2021 tax bill for campground E05 because the camper was registered.*

24 **SECOND:** Chairperson Hemenway
25 **DAVID HEMENWAY – YES**
26 **NORMANDIE BLAKE – YES**
27 **MARLO HERRICK – YES**
28 **The motion passed 3 to 0.**

29
30 **MOTION:** Selectwoman Herrick
31 *To abate the tax bills for A28, D18, G10, and E11 because they were no longer at the campground.*

32 **SECOND:** Chairperson Hemenway
33 **DAVID HEMENWAY – YES**
34 **NORMANDIE BLAKE – YES**
35 **MARLO HERRICK – YES**
36 **The motion passed 3 to 0.**

37
38 Selectwoman Herrick moved to the next item on the agenda, correspondence.

39
40 Administrator Hadley informed the Board that the Town had received the report from the department of
41 labor regarding the inspection for the Town Office and the Safety Building. The Board briefly reviewed
42 the document and discussed how to address the minor issues in it. Administrator Hadley then provided the
43 Thank you letters they had received from CASA and the Community Action Program.

44
45 Selectwoman Herrick moved to the next item on the agenda, public comments.

46
47 Chief Adams commented that they had purchased the new cruiser, but they would not have the equipment
48 to outfit it until July.

49
50 **MOTION:** Chairperson Hemenway

1 *To approve the minutes from 4/4/22, 4/4/22 Non-Public Session One, and 4/4/22 Non-Public Session*
2 *Two as written.*

3 **SECOND:** Selectwoman Blake

4 **DAVID HEMENWAY – YES**

5 **NORMANDIE BLAKE – YES**

6 **MARLO HERRICK – YES**

7 **The motion passed 3 to 0.**

8
9 **MOTION:** Chairperson Hemenway

10 *To enter Non-Public Session Under RSA91-A:3d regarding the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or*
11 *personal property at 8:58pm.*

12 **SECOND:** Selectwoman Blake

13 **DAVID HEMENWAY – YES**

14 **NORMANDIE BLAKE – YES**

15 **MARLO HERRICK – YES**

16 **The motion passed 3 to 0.**

17
18 The Board exited non-public session 9:21pm.

19
20 **MOTION:** Chairperson Hemenway

21 *To seal Non-Public Session 1 minutes from 4/4.*

22 **SECOND:** Selectwoman Blake

23 **DAVID HEMENWAY – YES**

24 **NORMANDIE BLAKE – YES**

25 **MARLO HERRICK – YES**

26 **The motion passed 3 to 0.**

27
28 **MOTION:** Chairperson Hemenway

29 *To enter Non-Public Session Under RSA91-A:3a regarding personnel at 9:21pm.*

30 **SECOND:** Selectwoman Blake

31 **DAVID HEMENWAY – YES**

32 **NORMANDIE BLAKE – YES**

33 **MARLO HERRICK – YES**

34 **The motion passed 3 to 0.**

35
36 The Board exited non-public session 9:48pm.

37
38 **MOTION:** Chairperson Hemenway

39 *To close the meeting at 9:48pm*

40 **SECOND:** Selectwoman Blake

41 **DAVID HEMENWAY – YES**

42 **NORMANDIE BLAKE – YES**

43 **MARLO HERRICK – YES**

44 **The motion passed 3 to 0.**

45
46 *Minutes taken by Russell Tatro.*